

## Newtown Creek Superfund Community Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting Notes

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

### Summary of Presentations and Discussion

The meeting concentrated on updates on the early interim action for the East Branch section of the site. After a brief overview of the boundaries of the site and its operable units there was a recap of the remedy selected in the early interim action for the East Branch. The remainder of the presentation was devoted to answering questions from the CAG comments. These questions were grouped into two main themes: upland pollution source control and future use of the site/ecological restoration.

Prior to responding to the questions, EPA emphasized the importance of the Pre Design Investigation (PDI) as something that would help EPA answer the questions raised in the Responsiveness Survey. The PDI facilitates the gathering of further information to inform the design of the remedy such as composition of the cap, dredging plans etc.

Questions on the first theme of upland source control primarily covered EPA's Long Term Monitoring Plan and bulkheads, their locations, construction, and plans for their replacement and repair. In her answers to these questions Stephanie emphasized the importance of monitoring upland source of pollution as these can affect the level of contamination in the site in addition to what is already being remediated. The PDI will help identify which upland properties might be problematic and will help identify where to put bulkheads to contain these seeps into site. EPA will also be working with the State of New York to address these upland properties, with the state taking the primary role.

There was a brief overview of what capping might look like at the site and how EPA would monitor the cap's continued efficacy. Though a cap was selected as a remedy, the final cap design will not be decided until the completion of the PDI. The Post Remedy Implementation Monitoring Program (PRIMP) will seek to assess the performance of the remedy over time and course correct if there is a problem. PRIMP will also assess the impact of ongoing pollution sources on protectiveness over time.

CAG members discussed the "biologically active zone" (BAZ) and how that would be defined. It was eventually concluded that this term was a holdover from the risk assessment process and not relevant to the current discussion of the remedy and monitoring.

The following CAG meeting will be held on March 26.